

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-14 and please add new claims 15 and 16 as follows.

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A drying device comprising opposed sheets of flexible material co-joined along peripheral edge portions thereof wherein at least one of ~~the~~ said sheets is provided with a multiplicity of small apertures over at least substantially its whole surface area, ~~or substantially so, the~~ said drying device also comprising connector means for attachment of an air blower thereto, whereby, when ~~the~~ said drying device is in use, air from an air blower is fed between said sheets and through said multiplicity of small apertures to remove moisture from a surface to be dried.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A drying device ~~according to of~~ Claim 1 ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said opposed sheets of flexible material are co-joined by a plurality of webs extending therebetween to form longitudinal channels between said sheets.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A drying device ~~according to of~~ Claim 2 ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said webs are each provided with perforations to facilitate, when ~~the~~ said drying device is in use, ~~the~~ even distribution of air from an air blower attached to the drying device.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A drying device ~~according to any one of Claims of Claim 1 to 3 characterized in that the~~ wherein said connector means comprises edge portions of quick release material for effecting the ready attachment and detachment of an air blower thereto.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A drying device according to ~~any one of Claims of Claim 1 to 4~~ characterized in that ~~the~~wherein said flexible material is a synthetic waterproof material.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A drying device according to ~~of~~ Claim 5 characterized in that ~~the~~wherein said synthetic waterproof material is plastic.
7. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A drying device according to ~~any one of Claims of Claim 1 to 6~~ characterized in that ~~the~~wherein said drying device comprises support means, effective when the drying device is in use, to position ~~the~~said drying device adjacent a wall or a ceiling to be dried.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A drying device according to ~~any one of Claims of Claim 1 to 7~~ characterized in that ~~the~~wherein said drying device comprises a connector for co-joining one drying device with another like drying device.
9. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A drying device according to ~~of~~ Claim 8 characterized in that ~~the~~wherein said connector for co-joining one drying device with another is provided by a collar of flexible material having quick release portions for ready attachment and detachment to and from each drying device.
10. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A drying device according to ~~any one of the preceding Claims of Claim 1~~ characterized in that ~~the~~wherein said opposed flexible sheets are at least substantially rectangular in shape ~~or substantially so~~.
11. (Currently Amended) A method of drying a carpet after cleaning or immersion in water comprising the steps of:
 - a) placing ~~the~~a drying device according to ~~any one of Claims of Claim 1 to 10~~

- with a sheet having apertures therein overlying a carpet;
- b) attaching an air blower to ~~the~~said drying device; and
 - c) blowing air into ~~the~~said drying device and through ~~the~~said apertures to dry said carpet.
12. (Currently Amended) A method of drying a dwelling after the ingress of water thereto comprising the steps of:
- a) placing ~~the~~a drying device ~~according to any one of Claims of Claim 1 to 10~~ with at least one ~~a sheet or sheets~~ having apertures therein against a surface, or between surfaces to be dried;
 - b) attaching an air blower to ~~the~~ said drying device; and
 - c) blowing air into ~~the~~said drying device and through the apertures in ~~the~~said at least one ~~sheet or sheets~~ to dry said surface of surfaces.
13. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A method ~~according to of~~ Claim 12 ~~characterized in that the~~wherein said surface to be dried is:
- a) a floor; or
 - b) a wall; or
 - c) a ceiling; or
 - d) those surfaces bounding a closed space between floorboards and a ~~concrete base or the like~~.
14. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A method ~~according to either one of Claims of Claim 11; 12 and 13~~ characterized in that ~~the~~wherein said air is heated to above ambient temperature.
15. (New) The method of Claim 12 wherein said air is heated to above ambient temperature.
16. (New) The method of Claim 13 wherein said air is heated to above ambient temperature.